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Mercantile Summary.

By a majority of 245, the ratepayers of Woodstock last week carried a bylaw for the purchase and renewal of the present electric light plant for \$30,000. Of this amount, \$14,000 is for the present building, and \$16,000 is for the renewal of the plant.

THE Winnipeg Free Press, of last week, says that three prominent business men of that city made a thorough canvass, and induced the merchants of the city to sign an agreement that after the first of January they would sever their connection with the trading stamp com-

A Montreal restaurateur, V. Lemay, owing, it is said, some \$10,000, asks his creditors to accept 25 per cent. of their claims, and grant him a discharge.---It has been arranged to grant an extension to F. X. Demarais, shoe retailer, Montreal, whose stoppage was reported last week.---Norbert Morin, a Montreal grocer, has consented to assign, with liabilities figured at \$2,800.—Henry Hamilton, Jr., doing a limited business under the pretentious style of the American Skirt Co., has assigned, on demand; liabilities, \$629.

WE learn from the Canadian Gazette. that the firm of Petersen, Tate & Co., of Newcastle-on-Tyne, announce "that the business of steamship owners, ship and insurance brokers, and the management of the Dominion Turret Line, Limited; Guildford Steamship Company, Limited; St. Bede Trading Company, Limited; and the Scottish Hero Steamship Company, Limited; formerly carried on under the style of 'Petersen, Tate & Co.,' will from this date be carried on by us under the style of 'William Petersen, Limited.'" The sole partner of the firm is Mr. William Petersen.

The widow of the late Alphonse Gariepy is post-mistress at Lachine Locks, Que., besides which she has carried on a millinery and small general store business since 1896, and was supposed to be doing fairly well. She has now consented to assign, owing about \$5,000.-F. X. Savard has been in general business at St. Felicien, Que., in a small way, for a dozen years. He has always seemed to suffer from a lack of sufficient capital, and been reported as a chronic, slow payer, so that his assignment, on demand of a Quebec house, is not a surprise.

HAVING been for some years clerk in a Montreal wholesale dry goods house, Joseph Lafrance started a general store business at Varennes, Que., in 1897, with help received from his father, a comfortable farmer of the district. His city experience, it is judged, was not wholly of a beneficial character; it did not teach him economy, and his habits have not been business-like. Of late, he has been sued by some of his suppliers. Now he has assigned, on demand of Messrs. Hudon, Hebert & Co., and is estimated

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